SENATE RESEARCH COMMITTEE

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

MINUTES OF THE FIRST SENATE RESEARCH COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14th, 1986 AT 9:30 A.M. IN BC-110, SGW CAMPUS

ATTENDANCE:

PRESENT WERE:

C.H. Langford (Chairman), Dean M.N.S. Swamy, Vice-Dean P. Albert, Dr. P. Fazio, Dr. D. Pariser, Dr. C. Ross, Dr. P. Shizgal, Dr. M. Szabo, Audrey J. Williams, S. Bulzan (Secretary)

ABSENT:

Dean R. Parker, Dr. J. Doukas, H. Fotouhinia

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED AND DISTRIBUTED TO THE SENATE RESEARCH COMMITTEE MEMBERS

1985-86 SUMMARY OF RESEARCH GRANTS AND CONTRACTS AWARDED TO CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY RESEARCHERS.

Dr. C.H. Langford occupied the chair.

I./ AGENDA MODIFICATIONS AND APPROVAL

The following items to be added under "Other Business":

i) Federal Government policy re: Matching Funds Program
ii) Federal Government policy re: Space Research and NRC

II./ AVRA, OFFICE OF RESEARCH SERVICES ACTIVITIES - PRIORITIES

The Chairman introduced the role of this Committee by briefly discussing the document prepared by the Vice-Rector Academic entitled: "Conceptual Framework for Academic Planning at Concordia". This document proposed the following points:

i) overall development strategy - development of strengths
ii) undergraduate representation - maintain or 5% increase
iii) graduate studies increase
iv) priority for resources given to strongly developed areas
v) strengthening of profile
vi) strengthening of positive extension activities
vii) cooperation of Montreal universities
viii) development of closer links with private sector

He then identified six areas in which the office of the Associate Vice-Rector Academic (Research) has plans for activity.

1) DEVELOPMENT OF ADVERTISING PROFILE FOR RESEARCH INTENSIVE AREAS

The Chairman stressed the importance of developing advertising for the more active research areas. The essential point is to promote a better profile or image of our research activities, for external as well as internal purposes. In addition, such documents can contribute to attracting high quality graduate students.

2) EXPLORATION OF LINKAGES WITH NON-UNIVERSITY RESEARCH INSTITUTES (JOINT WITH GRADUATE FACULTY)

3) EXPLORATION OF SYSTEMATIC GRADUATE STUDY/RESEARCH COLLABORATIONS WITH NEIGHBORING UNIVERSITIES (JOINT WITH GRADUATE FACULTY)

4) PROSPECTS FOR NEW INITIATIVES LINKED TO NEW GRADUATE PROGRAMS (JOINT WITH GRADUATE FACULTY)

The Chairman discussed items 2, 3, and 4 together.

2.1 Exploring the possibility of linkages with research institutes, such as NRC's Institut de Génie Matériaux (IGM), and Biotechnology, for sponsoring of research activities or jointly sponsoring equipment grant proposals for mutual access.

2.2 Exploring graduate study/research collaboration with neighboring universities, e.g. the Centre de Recherche en Informatique de Montréal (CRIM), which has been highly successful in obtaining Federal and Provincial funding, or the Joint Ph.D. program in Administration. Such type of collaboration has already been demonstrated and has been successful. Further types of collaboration in both areas should be sought.

5) DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNITY LINKS.
COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

The Chairman spoke about establishing a continuing channel of communication by forming a Consultative Committee. This committee would be made up of representatives from the community, including representatives from the Board of Governors. It will act as an advisory body to the Associate Vice-Rector.

6) RESEARCH ON CONCORDIA "RESEARCH PERFORMANCE"

6.1 To look at the research successes and measures for evaluating Concordia's research performance,

6.2 To analyze barriers to successful research,

6.3 To develop comparative data between Concordia and other universities.

III./ MEMBERSHIP OF THE SENATE RESEARCH COMMITTEE

3.1 The Chairman discussed the possibility of expanding the present Senate Research Committee to include two additional members (one from Arts & Science; one from Engineering) to better reflect the needs in the Humanities and in Computer Science.

3.2 The Chairman stressed that the present membership of the Committee would normally make recommendations to the Senate only when concensus is reached.

3.3 The Committee agreed to request from Senate the authority to co-opt two additional members to complete its profile of expertise.

IV./ OTHER BUSINESS

4.1 Submissions to the Parliamentary Commission were discussed. Some give research very high priority. The Committee's feelings were that in event that new funds become available, a draft policy be available to identify needs in research.

4.2 Dean Swamy discussed the Federal Matching Funds Program and how money was to be alloted. It was stressed that individual researchers should be informed of the incentives of pursuing external funding.

4.3 Dr. Fazio discussed cut-backs of NRC funds which will be diverted to the new Space Program. Dr. Fazio will provide Chairman with further data regarding this announcement.

4.4 Dr. Szabo announced plans to launch a competition to award researcher involved in teaching. Tentative title recommended by the Committee:

"Honorary Lectureship on Research & Teaching"

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.